Import of equipment by the oil India Limited

2739. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil India Limited a public sector undertaking, is pleading before Government for permission to import equipment as it finds indigenous equipment to be sub-standard; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Oil India Ltd., seeks Government's permission from time to time to import equipment in the following circumstances:

(i) The equipment is not manufactured indigenously.

(ii) The indigenous offers do not meet the technical specifications indicated in the tender.

(iii) The delevery period does not match OIL's immediate requirements.

(iv) The price quoted by the Indigenous partees is in excess of the limits laid down under the price preference scheme of the Government.

(b) Government decides each case on merit.

Two Tier Tariff System for Power Supply

2740. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government was guided by World Bank conditionalities for imposing a two tier triff system for power supply from Central Power Stations;

(b) if so, whether the NTPC's insistance for 57 per cent plant load factor instead of 63 per cent P.L.F., is also on the same basis; and

(c) if so, whether Government will agree to such terms which are not favourable for State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The Agreement signed with the World Bank in respect of various projects of the National Thermal Power Corporation do not stipulate any condition for two-tier tariff system to be adopted for supply of power from Central Power Stations.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Death of a young Army Major by electrocution

2741. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) who are the officers of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking who are responsible for the death of a young Major at the Palam on July 15, 1985 by their negligence of duty;

(b) what action has been taken against those who were found responsible for that accident, give details; and

(c) what compensation was given to the relatives of the deceased army Major?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) One Inspector incharge of street lighting maintenance in the Zone *prima-facie* found to be responsible for the accident has been placed under suspension. All cases of such accidents which occurred in 1985 are being enquired into by a high power committee apponited by Delhi Administration.

(c) Rupees one lakh has been paid to the bereaved family as *ex-gratia* payment.

Experiments to tap power from coal

2742. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experiments have been carried out in India and in other countries to tap power directly from Coal through magnetohydrodynamic Generation method; and